

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 27-52 were previously pending in the application. Claims 28 and 39 are canceled; claims 27, 29-31, 35-36, 38, 40-42, 46-47, and 49-52 are amended; and new claims 53-58 are added herein. Assuming the entry of this amendment, claims 27, 29-38, and 40-58 are now pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

In paragraph 3 of the office action, the Examiner objected to claims 32-33 and 43-44 as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but indicated that those claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In paragraph 4, the Examiner rejected claims 27-31, 34-42, and 45-52 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dokic. For the following reasons, the Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are allowable.

### Currently Amended Claims 27, 38, 49, and 51

According to currently amended claim 38, the first processor (i) generates a data word having two or more data bits, wherein each data bit has either a first bit value or a second bit value, and (ii) transmits the data word from a data port of the first processor to the signal unit. The signal unit (i) converts the data word into two or more interrupt signals by analyzing the bit value of each of two or more data bits in the data word, wherein each analyzed data bit in the data word having a specified bit value corresponds to a different interrupt signal, and (ii) transmits each interrupt signal from the signal unit to an interrupt port of an other processor. The Applicant submits that Dokic does not teach or even suggest such a combination of features.

Dokic teaches an audio decoder having multiple processors in which interrupt signals are generated to control the operations of the various processors. The only places that Dokic teaches anything about the generation of interrupt signals are as follows:

- o Column 4, lines 66-67 ("I/O Block 102 can generate interrupt requests");
- o Column 5, lines 37-39 ("Clock manager 1303 also includes a programmable timer to generate periodic interrupts to processor block 101.");
- o Column 7, lines 43-44 ("each read by the PC causes an interrupt to the processor");
- o Column 8, lines 3-5 ("the debug interface initiates communication only with the specified processor by sending it an initial interrupt");
- o Column 8, lines 5-8 ("the targeted processor ... directs all subsequent interrupts to itself");
- o Column 8, lines 44-47 ("The trap is a special instruction designed such that the processor takes a dedicated high priority interrupt when it executes this instruction.");
- o Column 10, lines 26-27 ("any write access to that register by DSPA results in an interrupt being generated on the DSP B, if enabled"); and
- o Column 12, lines 14-15 ("a 32-sample output is provided FIFO with half-empty interrupt signal to the DSP").

None of these teachings has anything to do with converting a data word having two or more data bits into two or more interrupt signals by analyzing the bit value of each of two or more data bits in the data word, wherein each analyzed data bit in the data word having a specified bit value corresponds to a different interrupt signal.

In rejecting previously presented claim 27, on page 3, the Examiner cited column 5, lines 4-30, and Fig. 5, items 5601-5605 as teaching the converting step. The Applicant submits that none of those teachings has anything to do with converting a data word having two or more data bits into two or more interrupt signals by analyzing the bit value of each of two or more data bits in the data word, wherein each analyzed data bit in the data word having a specified bit value corresponds to a different interrupt signal. In fact, the cited teachings do not even relate to the generation of interrupt signals.

For all these reasons, the Applicant submits that currently amended claim 38 is allowable over Dokic. For similar reasons, the Applicant submits that currently amended claims 27, 49, and 51 are allowable over Dokic.

Since claims 29-37 depend directly or indirectly from claim 27, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable over Dokic. Since claims 40-48 depend directly or indirectly from claim 38, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable over Dokic. Since claim 50 depends from claim 49, it is further submitted that claim 50 is also allowable over Dokic. Since claim 52 depends from claim 51, it is further submitted that claim 52 is also allowable over Dokic.

#### New Claims 53-58

New claim 53 is equivalent to previously pending claim 32 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 32 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 53 is allowable. Since new claim 54 depends from claim 53, it is further submitted that that claim is also allowable.

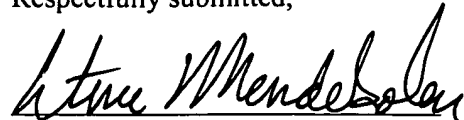
New claim 55 is equivalent to previously pending claim 43 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 43 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 55 is allowable. Since new claim 56 depends from claim 55, it is further submitted that that claim is also allowable.

New claim 57 is equivalent to previously pending claim 51 rewritten to include the features of previously pending claims 42-43. For at least some of the same reasons that the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 43 was directed to allowable subject matter, the Applicant submits that new claim 57 is allowable. Support for new claim 58 is found in previously pending claim 44. Since new claim 58 depends from claim 57, it is further submitted that that claim is also allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the now-pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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